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NATURAL HISTORY,  
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A New Race of *Penelope montagnii*  
from Southeastern PeruEMMET R. BLAKE  
CURATOR, DIVISION OF BIRDS

More than five hundred species of birds are known from that part of southeastern Peru (Cuzco and Puno) drained by the southern tributaries of the Río Madre de Dios. The valley of the Marcapata River, a tributary of the Río Inambari, has an exceptionally rich fauna that is not yet fully known, as evidenced by the discovery in recent years of *Tinamus osgoodi* and new races of various other birds. Three adult specimens of *Penelope montagnii* from the upper Marcapata Valley differ from any known race of the species and for a number of years have been filed in the Museum's collections as *P. m. plumosa*. On comparing these specimens with the extensive material now available it is evident that the eastern flank of the Andes in Cuzco and Puno is occupied by a distinct population of *montagnii*, as described below.

I am indebted to Dr. Rudolphe M. de Schauensee for the loan of critical material in the collections of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

***Penelope montagnii marcapatensis*, new subspecies**

*Type*.—Chicago Natural History Museum no. 213782, from Chilihili, Marcapata, Department of Cuzco, Peru. Altitude 1500 meters. Adult male, collected June 7, 1951, by Celestino Kalinowski. Original number 583.

*Diagnosis*.—Nearest *P. m. plumosa* but differs in having decidedly narrower, more diffused, and hence much less conspicuous silvery lateral edges on the feathers of the pileum, superciliary region, neck, and breast. Sides of the head more uniformly gray in color. Feathers of the mantle and upper wing coverts usually

*Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 62-21665*

without whitish edges; when present the pale markings sparse, narrow, and relatively inconspicuous. Rufescent coloring of the under parts brighter and more extensive. Sides and lower breast usually with few if any pale markings.

*Measurements*.—Male adult (type): wing, 246; tail, 240. Female adults: wing, 222, 232; tail, 211, 220 mm.

*Range*.—Subtropical and lower humid Temperate Zones of southeastern Peru. Known only from the upper Marcapata Valley (1500 meters), Cuzco and Oconeque ( $\pm$  2500 meters), Puno.

*Discussion*.—The Marcapata-Oconeque region of southeastern Peru lies between the areas occupied by the distinctive races *plumosa* and *sclateri*. As might be expected, the characters of these forms, considerably modified, are evident in *marcapatensis* but as the latter is not only readily separable from both, but also occupies a discrete range of considerable extent, I feel no hesitation in giving the population formal recognition.

In appearance of the head and in the browner (less bronze green) color of the upper parts *marcapatensis* reveals its affinity with *plumosa*. In color of the under parts and, especially, in the much narrower and less conspicuous streaks of the neck, breast, and mantle (when streaked) the former is nearer Bolivia's *sclateri*. The latter nevertheless stands apart from *marcapatensis* by reason of its much more sharply defined gray superciliary and malar regions, and bronze green (now brownish) upper parts. The three known specimens from the Marcapata Valley are quite similar in all respects and clearly represent a distinct population. Two adults from Oconeque, Puno (Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia), approach *sclateri* in color of the upper parts and, to some extent, in the appearance of the superciliary and malar areas, but their closer affinity with *marcapatensis* is evident.

#### SPECIMENS EXAMINED

*P. m. plumosa*.—Peru: 10 miles east of Molinopampa, 2 males, 1 female; mountains east of Balsas, 1 female.

*P. m. marcapatensis*.—Peru: San Andres, Limacpunco, and Chilichili (Marcapata Valley), Cuzco, 1 male, 2 females; Oconeque, Puno, 1 male, 1 female.

*P. m. sclateri*.—Bolivia: Yungas de Cochabamba, 2 females; Incachaca, 3 males, 1 female; Yungas El Palmar, 2 males, 3 females; Chapare, 2 males.

















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